

News Release

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Riverside Solar Projects Now Generating Over 3 Megawatts

Riverside, Calif. – With the addition of two city-funded solar projects coming online last month, the City of Riverside has achieved yet another major milestone toward increasing its renewable energy portfolio by surpassing the 3 megawatt (MW) mark of clean, renewable energy that is produced by solar generation projects throughout the city.

Just six months ago the city surpassed the 2 MW mark as commercial and residential solar projects continued to be constructed citywide, spurred on by more affordable and efficient solar technology, available tax incentives, and utility rebates. One megawatt is enough energy to serve about 750 Southern California homes.

“Ever since our first solar carport went online in November 2001, our goal has been to educate customers on the benefits that a solar energy system can provide to them, their city, and the environment,” said Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) General Manager David H. Wright. “With 249 additional projects coming online within the past ten years, we can see that our customers understand those benefits.”

A 20.70 kilowatt (kW) system at the city’s wastewater treatment facility on Acorn Street, and a 19.20 kW system at the new Marcy Branch Library helped push Riverside’s solar totals over 3 MW in April. City and utilities-funded projects at parks, senior centers, parking lots, and even atop city hall now provide more than 780 kW that help offset energy usage at their locations.

“It’s exciting to see the continued exponential growth of our city’s solar energy portfolio,” said Riverside’s Mayor Ronald Loveridge. “Each new system, along with each new milestone, moves Riverside closer toward the goals we established in our Green Action Plan and makes Riverside a model solar city.”

With a 100 kW system expected to come online this week at local manufacturer GAR Laboratories, located in the Hunter Business Park, Riverside is already rapidly moving toward its next solar milestone of reaching 4 MW. For additional information about solar energy projects in Riverside and to view Riverside’s Solar City Map, visit: GreenRiverside.com

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Established in 1895, Riverside Public Utilities is a consumer-owned water and electric utility governed by a board of nine community volunteers that provides high quality, reliable services to over 106,000 metered electric customers and 64,000 metered water customers throughout the City of Riverside. The Utility is committed to increased use of renewable energy resources and sustainable living practices that help reduce environmental impacts within the City of Riverside and the state of California.

www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com

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